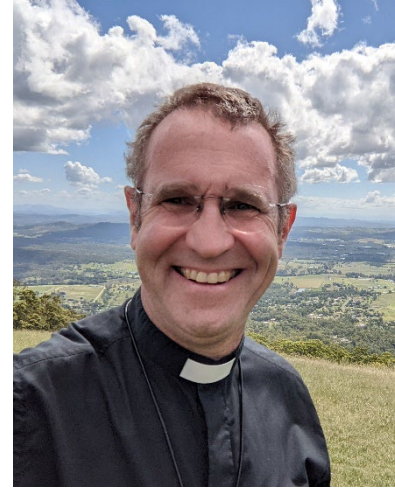


The Right Reverend John Roundhill – General Synod Profile (2022)

Assistant Bishop | Anglican Diocese of Southern Queensland

It was in Yorkshire, aged 16 on a school camp that a friend said to John “Well of course, no one believes in God anymore.” At that point John’s life took a different turn. At Cambridge University, studying Natural Sciences, he joined the college chapel and was both challenged and supported by the sermons and the liturgy, choral evensong is a service of great beauty and worth.

To try and make sense of what God was calling life to be for him, John joined the British charity Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and worked for two years in Belize, Central America as a Physics and Computer teacher. This was a time of immense freedom and adventure and left John with a love for the more tropical parts of the world. It was in Belize that John made the decision to train for ordained ministry and he went back to the UK to Ripon College Cuddesdon in Oxford. His recommendation for the priesthood came from the local Jesuit priest in Belize as that was the main church in town.



A placement in England in Blackburn Diocese as a curate and then as a school Chaplain in Edinburgh was followed by a return to the tropics with Frances and their two young children. The family spent 4 years in Hong Kong where John was first a chaplain and then Sub Dean of St John’s Cathedral.

This was followed by 5 years in Brisbane Diocese at Aspley-Albany Creek Church and then 6 years in Bendigo as Dean and Vicar General, before returning to Brisbane as Assistant Bishop for the Southern Region.

This variety of ministry has allowed John to experience different styles, contexts and regulations across the Anglican Communion. Yet everywhere he has encountered people who are working hard to live out the Good News of Christ and everywhere the work of the church has been complimented by people who are on the boundaries who “lend a hand”. God’s good activity is not church bound.

As life seems to get more complex and as he gets older, John has tried to simplify what his is about. A good day is one that now involves some work, time with the family, a run or walk with friends and space to pray. Sometimes the praying and the walking go together.